

Highway Home has been serving the needs of the elderly and I am honored to join them in their celebration.

The High Home was founded by the Highway Tabernacle Church of Philadelphia in 1951 and is a non-profit organization. Since 1980, the Highway Home has been licensed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with the mission of excellent care to the elderly and enhancing the quality of their lives. They have met this mission with great success.

I am proud to join Highway Home in their celebration. Our community is fortunate to have such a fine facility that meets the important needs of our elderly.

#### RENEWAL COMMUNITY TECHNICAL LEGISLATION

#### HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 11, 2001*

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Representatives QUINN and REYNOLDS, I will be introducing legislation designed to enhance the effectiveness of the "Renewal Community" program which Congress adopted just last December. This legislation would allow the expansion of Renewal Communities to include census tracts which are not eligible under 1990 census data, but which are eligible under 2000 census data.

As Congress debates economic stimulus legislation, which is likely to include tax provisions, we urge inclusion of this simple, but important, legislative amendment to the existing Renewal Community program.

Late last year, Congress enacted bi-partisan legislation authorizing the designation of forty "Renewal Communities," each of which will receive substantial investment tax benefits. Applications for selection of these Renewal Communities are due late in October, with final selection by HUD under a competitive process before the end of this year.

All census tracts in a Renewal Community application must meet objective criteria, including benchmarks relating to poverty and unemployment. However, the poverty rates and population used to determine compliance with such criteria are required to be determined using 1990 census data.

Use of dated economic data was probably necessary, given that the selection process will be completed before all 2000 census data is available. However, ironically, the result is that legislation designed to rejuvenate areas with rising poverty and declining economic conditions and population effectively ignores what has taken place over the last decade. The very census tracts that have declined economically over the last decade, as confirmed by objective economic data, are unnecessarily excluded from favorable investment treatment designed to reverse such economic decline.

This makes no sense. Therefore, the legislation we are introducing today in a simple one, which permits applicants that are awarded Renewal Community status to subsequently apply to HUD to expand their boundaries to include census tracts that did not meet the legislation's poverty or population criteria using 1990 census data, but would meet such criteria using 2000 census data.

It does not interfere with the selection process for the forty Renewal Communities, which is already underway. Nor does it alter the objective qualifications that each census tract must meet to qualify for inclusion in a Renewal Community. It merely allows Renewal Communities selected later this year to apply for the inclusion of adjacent census tracts that clearly justify inclusion in the Renewal Community, based on our most recent census data.

#### HONORING LILIA PULIDO ALVARADO

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 11, 2001*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lilia Pulido Alvarado. Mrs. Alvarado is being honored by the International Institute of Flint at their annual dinner on October 13th. She will be given their Golden Door award.

The International Institute pays tribute each year to an outstanding immigrant who has made a significant impact on the greater Flint community. It is the highest award the Institute presents. The recipient has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to improving the quality of life for newly arrived immigrants.

This year's recipient, Lilia Pulido Alvarado is a stellar example of this commitment. She has fought her entire life for immigrants. She immigrated to the United States from Mexico at the age of twelve with her parents and four siblings. Her father had been the Chief of Police in Zacatecas before an accident cut short his career. Lilia's mother worked as a midwife to support the family before the family moved to Michigan.

As a result of her father's accident and the move to a new country the family had a drastic change in their lifestyle. In Mexico the family lived in an 18-room house with servants, and an active social life. In Michigan the family lived in a shanty, sleeping on straw mattresses, cooking over a wood stove and had outdoor toilet facilities. Lilia did not know how to speak English and this created difficulties for her in school. The first day of school Lilia threw a book at the teacher and was expelled. The teacher had wanted her to read in English. Later in life this incident caused Lilia to fight passionately for schools to understand and incorporate the language and culture of the immigrant when teaching the student.

Fortunately, Lilia went on to complete her schooling, eventually earning an associate's degree, a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and a substance abuse counselor license. During this time she married, and raised four children. She paid for her education by picking apples. She has worked as the district director of the Michigan State University research project, "Migrants in Transition;" as a bilingual counselor for Model Cities, a counselor for battered women at the YWCA of Greater Flint, a teacher with the Flint Community Schools and the International Institute and as an insurance specialist for Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Her advocacy stretches beyond Flint to include the indigenous people of Mexico.

The community has recognized Lilia's contributions over the years. She has received

awards from the United States Postal Service, United Way of Genesee County, La Raza Advisory Council to the Michigan State Board of Education, the YWCA, and she was cited in Rodolfo Acuna's book "Occupied America, A History of Chicanos."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Lilia Pulido Alvarado as she receives the Golden Door award from the International Institute of Flint. Lilia has worked tirelessly to help make a better world for all.

#### PROCLAMATION FOR STEPHEN EDWARD MONSEES

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 11, 2001*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students, Stephen Edward Monsees. This young man has received the Eagle Scout honor from their peers in recognition of their achievements.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

The Eagle Scout award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; they must earn a minimum of 23 merit badges as well as contribute at least 100 man-hours toward a community oriented service project.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Stephen and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition, Friday, October 12, 2001. Congratulations to Stephen and his family.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PRO- TECTING AMERICA'S CHILDREN AGAINST TERRORISM ACT

#### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 11, 2001*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation designed to protect our